

Mubarak visits S. Arabia

RIYADH (AP) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak arrived in the northeastern region of Hafir Al Batin Monday at the start of a visit to Saudi Arabia, his first overseas trip since Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of U.S.-led multinational troops building confrontations in Kuwait. Mubarak, whose country is the leading Arab contributor to the forces from Saudi Arabia to other Gulf allied capitals, Mubarak landed at Al Kaysouna airport, 48 kilometers from Hafir Al Batin, which is close to the border with Kuwait and main base for at least 14,000 Egyptian troops deployed to the multinational forces. Hafir Al Batin is 500 kilometers north of the capital, Riyadh. Informed Saudi sources said that the Egyptian leader would spend time with his troops and then proceed to the Red Sea port city of Jeddah for a meeting with King Fahd and Mubarak was scheduled to go on to the United Arab Emirates on Tuesday and return to Egypt on Wednesday.

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جورдан تايمز يومي سياسي مستقل من المؤسسة الصحافية الأردنية

**Kabariti, envoy discuss tourism**

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Abdul Karim Al Kabariti received in his office Monday German Counsellor in Amman Matthias Meyer and reviewed with him arrangements for the opening of Umm Qais archaeological museum, which the German government helped establish. Kabariti thanked the German government for the assistance it extended to Jordan in the fields of tourism and archaeology. The minister said he also discussed with the German diplomat means to revitalize German tourism to Jordan. "Results of our efforts will be visible soon," he told the Jordan Times. German tour operators have cancelled plans to bring in about 30,000 German tourists in the Dead Sea in the wake of the Gulf crisis.

Red Crescent helps send food to Iraq

AMMAN (J.T.) — A shipment of relief supplies has been sent to the Iraqi Red Crescent Society in Baghdad as a gift from the Pakistani Red Crescent Society to Pakistani nationals living in Iraq, according to the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS), which organized the transportation of the supplies. JNRCS Vice-President Dr. Mohammad Mutah Al Hadid, said that the shipment, sent upon the request of the Pakistani embassy in Amman, consisted of 21 tonnes foodstuff and was transported under JNRCS supervision. Hadid said in a statement that the JNRCS was willing to make other humanitarian deliveries to foreign nationals in Iraq through the Iraqi Red Crescent Society.

League observes pause in row over HQ

TUNIS (R) — The row over transferring the Arab League's headquarters from Tunis to Cairo will be put on the back burner when the league's ministerial council meets on Monday night, diplomats said. Diplomats said the issue would not be raised at Monday's meeting which would be delayed beyond the deadline of Oct. 31. On behalf of the five members of the Arab Maghreb Union, Algeria Saturday asked that the transfer procedure be suspended until the next meeting of league foreign ministers. A date for that meeting has not been fixed.

Shamir to bring in more Ethiopians

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said he was "doing all it can" to allow thousands of Ethiopian Jews suffering from disease and hunger to emigrate, an aide said Monday. About 500 Ethiopian immigrants demonstrated outside his office Sunday. Israeli officials estimate about 22,000 Jews remain in Ethiopia. Most are stranded in the capital of Addis Ababa, where they travelled down outlying villages to await departure to Israel. Some 17,000 Ethiopian Jews live in Israel. About half came during the secret "Operation Moses" rescue mission in 1984-85.

Iran to hold fair in Soviet Azerbaijan

NICOSIA (R) — Iran will hold a trade fair in Baku, capital of neighbouring Soviet Azerbaijan next month, the Iranian news agency IRNA said Monday. The fair, opening on Nov. 11, reflects growing ties between Iran and the Soviet Union and heralds increased trade between the southern Soviet republic and the Iranian province of east Azerbaijan.

Oil falls record \$5 a barrel

NEW YORK (R) — The price of oil plunged \$5 a barrel in hectic and frantic New York trading on Monday, the biggest one-day fall in the history of the New York mercantile exchange. In early afternoon trading, the benchmark November contract was down \$5.24 at \$28.55 a barrel in panic-driven selling. Officials at the exchange said that if oil traded at this level it would be the largest drop since crude oil began trading in 1983. The previous biggest one-day fall was a drop of \$4.27 on Aug. 27.

Pakistani army deployed in sensitive areas

KARACHI (R) — Pakistan has deployed more than 20,000 soldiers to check violence during national elections Wednesday, an army spokesman said Monday. The army has been deployed... to help the civil administration in conducting general elections in a peaceful manner, the spokesman said. "The troops will not be posted inside polling stations," he added. Three divisions of regular and paramilitary forces have been put on standby in the troubled southern province of Sind and in Pakistan's commercial capital Karachi. About 12,000 have been already deployed and the remainder held in barracks.

Sultan suggests Kuwait could make concessions

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Saudi Arabia, in its most conciliatory remarks since the Gulf crisis erupted, has suggested Kuwait could make "territorial concessions" to Iraq.

Saudi Defence Minister Prince Sultan Ben Abdul Aziz said Arab countries were ready to grant Iraq "all its rights" but added that there was no question about its unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait.

Saudi Arabia "sees no harm in any Arab country giving its Arab sister land, a site or a position on the sea," the prince told Arab journalists in Riyadh Sunday.

Prince Sultan's remarks contrasted with Riyadh's previous harsh criticism of Iraq.

The prince said Saudi Arabia, in fixing its borders, "gave part of its territorial land and waters out of its free will." Saudi Arabia has conceded territory in the past to the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Kuwait.

Replies to a question on peace moves, he was quoted as saying: "Any solution which does not provide for unconditional withdrawal and reinstating legitimacy is unacceptable and rejected not force," the Qatari News Agency (QNA) quoted him as saying.

"Saudi Arabia supports giving rights to their owners and backs Arab national security, including making fraternal Arab concessions whether to meet confirmed or doubtful rights," he said.

Hrawi works on disarming militias, freeing hostages

BEIRUT (AP) — President Elias Hrawi's government Monday worked out plans to disarm tens of thousands of gunmen in Lebanon's militias and free Western hostages held by extremists in which as many as 150,000 have been killed.

A Hrawi aide said the decision was taken during two days of talks in Damascus between Hrawi and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, who renewed a pledge to support efforts to end the civil war.

But only hours before Hrawi returned to Beirut Sunday night, unidentified gunmen assassinated Christian leader Dany Chamoun, his wife and two small sons at their home in suburban Baabda east of Beirut.

The slayings underlined the murderous nature of Lebanese politics despite Hrawi's Syrian-backed efforts to end more than a decade and a half of anarchy.

Even though Hrawi is backed by Syrian firepower, disarming the private armies which have been responsible for much of the death and destruction in 15 years of civil war and freeing however many of the 13 missing Westerners who are still alive will be no easy task.

Few, if any, of the tens of thousands of fighters in the dozen or so major militias will relish handing over their weapons, which range from automatic weapons to tanks and heavy artillery, and leave themselves defenseless against their rivals.

But it is essential if Hrawi is to succeed in implementing the peace plan to end the conflict in which as many as 150,000 have been killed.

The official Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) reported that the Lebanese army will now "assume security tasks in Aoun's former areas. The next step is to form a government which would include key militia leaders. This government will take the decision to disband the militias and implement that decision."

A source close to Hoss said: "The new government will decide how to disband the militias and bow long the process should take."

The Hrawi aide said the government plans to ask Samir Geagea, leader of the Lebanese Forces militia, to turn over the east Beirut districts of Ashrafieh, Nabaa and Dora which his men hold to the Lebanese army within two weeks.

"If the Lebanese Forces agree to a peaceful handover, then there will be no need for Syrian troops to enter east Beirut like they did with Aoun's zone. The ball's in Geagea's court," the aide said.

Geagea has publicly said he is willing to withdraw his militiamen. But sources at his head-

(Continued on page 3)

Violence rages in occupied lands

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A Palestinian youth stabbed an Israeli with a bolo-style blade in Jerusalem Monday despite a police ban on Arabs from the occupied territories entering the city, police said.

"We were all pleased with Iraq's withdrawal from Iranian territory and giving the fraternal Muslim country what it believes to be its right."

The prince also categorically denied any plans to form an Arab-foreign security alliance in the region.

Such an idea has been attributed to U.S. Secretary of State James Baker but denied by Washington, and the minister said "it is not acceptable that an Arab country enters into an alliance with a non-Arab power."

The Arabs should move within the framework of the Arab League and the Joint Arab Defense Pact, he said.

Kuwait's toppled leaders have rejected any solution of the Gulf crisis short of Iraq's complete withdrawal, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said.

It said a responsible source in the toppled Kuwaiti government issued the rejection Sunday in response to reports of a new initiative to end the crisis.

The agency said the source cited resolutions adopted by the Arab League and the U.N. Security Council that "demanded the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi troops from all Kuwaiti territories and supported the restoration of legitimate authority to the State of Kuwait."

He said trade sanctions imposed on Baghdad were aimed at averting the shedding of Iraqi blood.

Prince Sultan urged the Iraqi leadership to be "rational, withdraw from a fraternal Arab state,

suffered in a clash with Israeli troops in August 1988. The youth, Mohammad Naim Abu Akar, was known among Palestinians as "the living martyr," for surviving an intravenous feeding after bullets destroyed his intestines.

The closure was prompted by the fatal stabbing Sunday of three Jews by a Palestinian in a southern Jerusalem neighbourhood.

A Palestinian teenager was killed and 19 others were hospitalized with wounds from clashes with Israeli troops Monday in the occupied West Bank, Arab reports said.

Jews stoned Arab cars and beat several Arab pedestrians, Israel Radio said. It blamed members of the anti-Arab Kach party, saying they were bent on inciting trouble.

Clashes between soldiers and stone-throwing Palestinians were reported in the West Bank and Gaza strip.

The Arabs should move within the framework of the Arab League and the Joint Arab Defense Pact, he said.

Earlier, when Abu Akar's death became known, it sparked stone-throwing and the army imposed a curfew on the camp's 7,000 residents to restore order.

Dr. Khaled Abu Ibraheem, who treated Abu Akar over the past two years at Mukassed, said the youth would long be remembered.

"In the occupied territories, he stood as a symbol for the victims of the uprising," Abu Ibraheem said. "He was a clear example for many Palestinians because he fought to survive for a long time."

Nigerian envoy leaves after delivering message

AMMAN (J.T.) — Nigerian Minister of State for External Affairs Zakaria Ibrahim Monday delivered a message to His Majesty King Hussein from Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida and left for Baghdad on a similar mission.

The message, delivered at the Royal Court, dealt with issues of mutual concern and the Gulf crisis.

The meeting was attended by Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Zaid Ben Shakir, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem and Nigeria's non-resident ambassador to Jordan.

Before he left, the envoy held talks with Qasem, at the Foreign Ministry, dealing with means to bolster Jordanian-Nigerian ties and discussed the situation in the Middle East and the Gulf regions, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The agency said that the two sides reviewed developments in the region and prospects for peace that would safeguard Arab national interests.

The Nigerian envoy told Qasem that his country's position was identical with that of Jordan with regard to the Gulf crisis, especially in endeavours to solve the problem peacefully.

He said that military confrontation in the Gulf would not be confined to the region, but would engulf other parts of the world, with devastating consequences to the world's economy.

"Nigeria highly appreciates Jordan's efforts to find a peaceful settlement to the Gulf crisis, and backs His Majesty King Hussein's brave stand and wise policies," the envoy said.

He said that Nigeria would pursue consultations with countries in the region in an effort to attain peace.

Foreign Ministry Secretary General Mutassim Al Bilbeisi and director of the ministry's Political Department Khaled Obeidat bade farewell to the Nigerian envoy at the airport.

tended to lodge a complaint with the United Nations and the American administration.

AMMAN — The government is currently studying the issue of harassment to vessels heading for Aqaba and will take appropriate measures as it will see fit, Minister of Transport Nabil Abul Huda said Monday.

The Hrawi aide said the government plans to ask Samir Geagea, leader of the Lebanese Forces militia, to turn over the east Beirut districts of Ashrafieh, Nabaa and Dora which his men hold to the Lebanese army within two weeks.

"If the Lebanese Forces agree to a peaceful handover, then there will be no need for Syrian troops to enter east Beirut like they did with Aoun's zone. The ball's in Geagea's court," the aide said.

Geagea has publicly said he is willing to withdraw his militiamen. But sources at his head-

quarters said that if oil traded at this level it would be the largest drop since crude oil began trading in 1983. The previous biggest one-day fall was a drop of \$4.27 on Aug. 27.

We are ready to guarantee that we will take no hostile action against Saudi Arabia, whereby the reason for (the) foreign military presence in Saudi Arabia ceases to exist," Saddam said.

"We are trying to resolve the problem in this region not through military force but dialogue. But the major powers' military presence is absolutely harmful to possible dialogue," Saddam said.

At the White House, Press Secretary Martin Fitzwater said the Iraqi vessel had been bound for the Arabian Sea. It had been shadowed during the night by U.S. and Italian warships, said a U.S. navy spokesman.

The operation went smoothly with "no shots fired, no resistance met," he said. He said the boarding was "still in progress" and "the crew of the Iraqi ship is cooperating with the boarding party."

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The assembly is in recess and political analysts in Baghdad said a man-

Abu Akar was wounded in August 1988 in a stone-throwing clash with soldiers. It was one of dozens of confrontations to be joined as an activist.

Iran seals reconciliation with Iraq

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iran has raised the flag over its embassy in Baghdad, setting the seal after eight years of war on a reconciliation hastened by the Gulf crisis.

Iran and Iraq, whose eight-year conflict ended with a ceasefire in August 1988, severed diplomatic links in 1987.

But Iraq and Iran agreed on Aug. 15 to make permanent peace 13 days after Iraqi troops invaded Kuwait.

The decision paved the way for a formal peace treaty in the war. Iranian officials have spoken of an imminent visit to Tehran by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

The Iranian embassy opened after the two countries resumed direct diplomatic relations Oct. 14.

The mission is headed by Charge d'Affaires Abolqassem Shabani, who referred to "the strong ties linking the Iraqi and Iranian Islamic peoples" during a flag-raising ceremony on Sunday.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted Shabani as saying the move was aimed at "expanding

the fruitful cooperation between the two neighbouring countries in the interest of the Islamic Nation and to coordinate resistance against any aggression on its holy places and security."

This was a reference to the U.S.-led buildup of foreign troops in Saudi Arabia.

The rapprochement with Tehran raised fears in the West that Iran might side with Iraq in the event of war in the Gulf.

Iran has condemned the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait and says it is applying U.N. sanctions. But it has also called for the withdrawal of foreign forces from Saudi Arabia.

The Iraqi embassy in Tehran opened last week.

Iraq has withdrawn its troops from Iranian border territory. But differences remain over an exchange of tens of thousands of prisoners of war (POWs).

A senior Iranian official urged

Iraq on Monday to show goodwill and release former Iranian Oil Minister Mohammad Javad Tondguyan, captured during the war.

Mohammad Ali Nazaran, in charge of a commission dealing with prisoners of war, also called for the release of several thousand unregistered Iranian POWs he said were still in Iraq.

Iraq said last week it would soon resume exchanging prisoners with Iraq after a month-long halt.

Each country has freed about 35,000 prisoners so far. Before the exchange began, Iraq had about 50,000 POWs registered in Iran while Tehran put the number of its captives in Iraq at 55,000.

Baghdad says only those POWs jailed or awaiting trial, or those who do not want to return home, remain in Iraq.

In another development, Iraq, responding to a request from Iran, appears to have expelled members of a major Iranian opposition group, U.S. officials say.

The Iraqi embassy in Tehran denied the reports.

Members of the Mujahideen-e-Khalq of Iran have apparently started leaving Iraq for Paris and other European sites, said the

officials who spoke to the AP only on condition of anonymity. The dissident group is the largest trying to overthrow the clerical government in Tehran.

However, the assessment from the U.S. officials was strongly challenged by Mujahideen spokesman Farid Soleimani, who telephoned news agencies to insist that his group remained intact in Baghdad and elsewhere.

"The sense is that with this new understanding between Iran and Iraq, an organization like that is not welcome there any more," said a U.S. administration official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Iraq reported several times last month that Massoud Rajavi, the Mujahideen's Baghdad-based leader, had asked his people to leave Iraq and was himself leaving.

The Mujahideen also have denied the reports.

But rebel representatives in the United States, who used to bombard reporters, have all but disappeared in recent weeks.

Qadhafi sets deadline for end to Sudan revolt

KHARTOUM (AP) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has renewed his call for unity among his country, Egypt and Sudan and gave southern Sudanese rebels a year to end their revolt or he would join the fighting against them.

Qadhafi made the remarks Sunday in a speech to the closing session of a Sudanese government-sponsored conference that recommended a Libyan-style peoples' congresses as a future political system in Sudan. The speech was nationally televised live.

He said the three countries possess all elements of unity and should therefore not hesitate in setting up unity.

Qadhafi arrived here Saturday to join Sudan's military leader Omar Hassan Al Bashir in attending the closing session of the national dialogue conference, which has been debating the political future of this country since Aug. 6.

The 1,000-member conference has recommended that Sudan follow Libya's "Jamaahiriya" political system. The word means "republic of the masses" and connotes a system supposedly ruled directly by people's congresses instead of through elected representatives.

"Sudan, Egypt and Libya constitute the heart, the main body of the Arab Nation, the movement of which control the movement of the other Arab states," he said to a jubilant audience.

Egypt, which adopts a parliamentary system, has rebuffed Qadhafi's earlier calls for unity. It is expected to continue to oppose the idea.

Qadhafi seemed extremely jubilant over the conference recommendation. He scoffed at the parliamentary, partisan and government systems, saying that all those have become obsolete and have given way to his jamaahiriya.

In the jamaahiriya system, he coupons.

Private motorists will be limited to 30 litres (6.6 gallons) of petrol a week and five litres (1.1 gallons) of lubricating oil a month.

"As for those vehicles with Kuwait plates they will not be given coupons before changing their plates to Iraqi ones," the English-language Baghdad Observer quoted Chalabi as saying.

Iraq has sought to remove all symbols of a separate Kuwait since it declared the emirate its 19th province.

Chalabi said foreign diplomatic missions in Iraq and drivers of foreign-registered cars entering from Jordan would get special petrol ration coupons.

The law was conceived to enable Japan to contribute to the multinational force in the Gulf designed to force Iraqi troops out of Kuwait.

"Since Asian neighbours suffered very much during the World War II, the Japanese government must explain this draft legislation so that Japan may win their full understanding," Nakayama told an opposition committee.

The law was conceived to enable Japan to contribute to the multinational force in the Gulf designed to force Iraqi troops out of Kuwait.

"On Sunday, about 23,000 people formed a human ring around a U.S. air base in the western outskirts of Tokyo in protest at the government's plan.

Takako Doi, chairwoman of the Socialist Party, told the gathering: "We must oppose the government's move to send troops abroad under the attractive name of peace."

A similar Communist-organized rally was held at a central Tokyo park.

Under the proposed law, Kaifu's plans to send the corps, including units of the Japanese armed forces, to the Gulf in a non-combat support operation.

He told the Upper House committee that the corps should in principle be unarmed.

But foreign and defence officials told the committee that its members could carry rifles and pistols while supply ships should have machine guns and shotguns for self-protection.

Home News

Jordan bars entry to all goods to Iraq

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

such sale, or supply or use of such commodities or products."

According to an expert in international law, "there is no ambiguity in the resolution that food and medicine could be sent into Iraq." But, he added, the "crux of the matter is that it should be established that there is indeed a situation which warrants external humanitarian assistance before an external party can send in such goods."

"Apparently, the Americans are not willing to acknowledge that there is any shortage of milk and food in Iraq which warrants a definition of 'humanitarian circumstances' as cited in Resolution 661," added the expert.

"Until now, Jordan did not include food and medicine in its ban order," said a leading businessman. "But instances of such shipments, including the charity convoy of food and milk, were used by some, including the Americans, at the Security Council, to argue that Jordan was not abiding by the sanctions against Iraq when it actually came to discussing compensation for Jordan," he asserted.

"It is not simply a question of an embargo against Iraq but also political pressure on Jordan."

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said recently that Jordan was being "penalised by Saudi Arabia and the West" despite the Kingdom's strict adherence to the U.N. sanctions.

"Jordan is pushed into the Iraqi camp, into an extremist frame of mind," he said.

Although Jordan has secured pledges totalling about \$400 million from West Germany and Japan to compensate for the Kingdom's losses resulting from the Gulf crisis and sanctions against Iraq, no assistance has actually been received.

The Japanese ambassador, Tadayuki Nakayama, said Monday that he could not give any specific timeframe for Tokyo to deliver \$100 million in soft loans promised to Jordan by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu earlier this month. "We are working hard to get the money to Amman," the ambassador told the Jordan Times. He rejected as baseless reports that Japan was deliberately delaying the assistance to Jordan. Kaifu also promised another \$150 million in two packages, under stricter terms, but no specifics on these have yet been discussed, according to the ambassador.

A West German source said earlier this week that there was no change in Bonn's commitment of \$130 million in assistance to Jordan. The assistance should have reached Jordan by mid-October but "was delayed pending parliamentary approval," the source said.

"The amount is not part of the actual government budget and therefore it needs parliament endorsement," the source explained. "We hope it will be coming soon."

Jean Ripert, a special envoy of the United Nations secretary-general, said after a visit to Jordan and assessment of the Kingdom's economic situation that Amman need immediate financial assistance rather than pledges. "Jordan needs aid today, not tomorrow," he said.

Clause C of Resolution 661 calls on United Nations member states to ban the "sale or supply by their nationals or from their territories or using their flag vessels of any commodities or products, including weapons or any other military equipment, whether or not originating in their territories but not including supplies intended solely for medical purposes, in humanitarian circumstances, foodstuffs, to any person or body for the purposes of any business carried on in or operated from Iraq or Kuwait, any activity by their nationals or in their territories which promote or are calculated to promote

such sales, or supply or use of such commodities or products."

AMMAN — No truck laden with any kind of product has entered Iraq from Jordan since early Saturday when Jordan reinforced its adherence to the United Nations' sanctions against Iraq to include food and medicine, and only empty vehicles, which will bring back expatriates' belongings, are being allowed to cross the northeastern border post at Al Ruweisah, officials said Monday.

"The border security forces are under strict orders not to allow any kind of goods, including food and medicine, to cross the Jordanian border into Iraq," said a senior source at the Public Security Department (PSD). "Empty trucks with authorisation to bring back Jordanian expatriates' household goods and other personal effects are allowed to cross," said the source, speaking on condition of anonymity.

An official at the Ministry of Finance and Customs said the ban on goods entering Iraq through Jordanian territory or vice-versa was in place since early August when the Security Council adopted Resolution 661, imposing a trade embargo against Iraq for its invasion of Kuwait Aug. 2. "It is not a fresh order," said the official, "except that the authorities have been instructed to include food and medicine consignments in the ban."

"Another exception is oil from Iraq," the official noted. "We have informed the United Nations that Jordan has no choice but to procure Iraqi oil partly because Iraq is repaying its debts to Jordan in oil and partly because the two countries have a special pricing deal."

The official, who spoke to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity, confirmed that several truckloads of food and medicines had been allowed into Iraq until early October, when sudden questions were raised whether Resolution 661 would allow such shipments to continue.

Last week the government formed a convoy of food and medicine contributed by the Jordanian public to Iraq and said the shipment would be cleared for passage only after clarification from the Security Council Sanctions Committee over Resolution 661. At least two shipments of medicines manufactured in Jordan were turned back from the border last week.

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such sales, or supply or use of such commodities or products."

AMMAN — All Jordanians who are not in Iraq or Kuwait by 12 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 23, will risk losing residence and work permits, a senior Iraqi Embassy official said Monday.

However, Dumas said it was up to the Lebanese government — not France — to initiate any move in the United Nations to force the withdrawal of Syrian troops from Lebanon.

Leaders of France's conservative opposition parties have held talks with Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati when he followed the assault on Aoun.

Aoun took refuge in the French embassy in Beirut, but Lebanese authorities have refused to let him go into exile, saying he should be put on trial.

Dumas said the assassination of Chamoun, along with his wife and two sons, "shows the extent of the horrors" of Lebanon's civil strife.

"The quarrels that are ripping Lebanon apart must not be transferred to France," Dumas said.

"Those who take up the cause of one clan against other clans must understand that, far from working for a solution in Lebanon, they are provoking hatred, vengeance and murder."



Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Monday holds talks with Mohammad Abdullah Nour, a UNDP envoy (Petra photo)

U.N. envoy on a visit to assess the Kingdom's aid requirements

Jordan appeals to the world to honour aid pledge

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Monday issued an appeal to the United Nations and the rich industrialised nations to come to its aid and to offer the Kingdom fair compensation for the damage inflicted on its economy.

The appeal was made by Prime Minister Mudar Badran at a meeting with a senior United Nations official who is currently on a visit to Jordan to assess the Kingdom's aid requirements, and the economic damage caused by the sanctions against Iraq.

"Jordan was striving to overcome its economic problems when the Gulf crisis broke out causing the country to lose another \$8 billion in expatriates' remittances, and the country is now faced with the problem of 120,000 citizens who lost their jobs and their savings in the Gulf and had to return home," Badran pointed out.

Nour told the prime minister that his mission here was to complement to that started by U.N. special envoy Jean Ripert earlier this month. Ripert issued an appeal to the international community to provide urgent assistance to Jordan to help the country continue with its humanitarian assistance to the evacuees.

Nour said that the United Nations intended to ask countries which pledged economic assistance to nations affected by the emergency services offered to

800,000 evacuees by the Jordanian government had severely damaged the Kingdom's water resources and caused heavy damage to the Kingdom's road networks. In addition, the prime minister said, the government had spent \$50 million on food and health care for the evacuees.

"Jordan was striving to overcome its economic problems when the Gulf crisis broke out causing the country to lose another \$8 billion in expatriates' remittances, and the country is now faced with the problem of 120,000 citizens who lost their jobs and their savings in the Gulf and had to return home," Badran pointed out.

"Jordan has been subjected to huge losses and damages to its economy as a result of the Gulf crisis, the imposition of U.N. sanctions against Iraq and the influx of the evacuees," Badran told the U.N. envoy, Mohammad Abdullah Nour.

"As a result of implementing Security Council Resolutions 661 and 667, Jordan sustained economic losses which adversely affected all the nation's sectors and its industry, trade, transport and tourism most," the prime minister said at the meeting.

The prime minister said that the emergency services offered to

Senate holds special session, elects members to committees

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Upper House of Parliament met in a special session Monday under the chairmanship of Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi to review the country's mobilisation and military training programmes.

The Senate studied funds required to finance the programmes and issued an appeal to members of the public to contribute generously towards that cause. Later it was announced that the Senate members have each donated a month's salary to help finance the government's mobilisation programme. The Senate said that the door would remain open for further contributions.

According to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the House's first collection amounted to JD 54,500.

Both houses of Parliament, on Oct. 16, were briefed by Prime Minister Mudar Badran on the government's programmes to provide military training to the public. The government, Badran said, will provide training in schools, community colleges, uni-

versities and main industries.

"So far 150,000 Jordanians have been trained in the use of light weapons and first aid since the People's Army was created in 1985, but the programme of training will continue," he said.

Parliament members had earlier demanded that all public members be trained and that people be armed to be ready to defend their nation in the event of aggression on Jordan.

Badran said that People's Army training programmes would increase, and more people would be offered training.

Towards the end of the session the Senate, chose three members: Ishaq Al Farhan, Saeed Al Tal and Khaled Tarawneh to represent it in the follow-up committee grouping members of the Lower House and the government and entrusted with dealing with matters related to the People's Army.

The Senate also elected three other members: Jaafar Shami, Mohammad Budeir and Kamal Al Shaer to represent the House

in the government commission entrusted with raising financial contributions for the People's Army.

Meanwhile, the government Monday announced the formation of a technical committee grouping representatives of the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs, Amman Municipality and the Jordanian Engineers Association (JEA) to work out a comprehensive study on the condition of shelters in and around the Greater Amman region.

Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs Abdul Karim Al Dughami said that this step was taken in implementation of directives by His Majesty King Hussein.

Following the formation of the committee, a draft for its programme was sent to the Prime Minister for approval. Once the committee's programmes have been endorsed, he said, a comprehensive report on the state of the shelters and houses will be published.

Hammam thanked the Canadian government for its contribution which, he said, would assist the government to carry on with its humanitarian work.

Meanwhile, the European Commission (EC) announced Sunday that it would pay for the repatriation of a further 10,000 Sri Lankans expected to cross into Jordan from Iraq and Kuwait over the coming few weeks, at a cost of \$4.9 million. The move was made in response to a call for assistance from the Sri Lankan government. An agreement between EC and the ambassador of Sri Lanka to Belgium was signed in Brussels on 19.10.1990.

The airift will take place over a two-week period, with the first batch of passengers expected to be flown out of Amman Monday Oct. 22.

To date, the European Commission has financed the airift of 22,783 Sri Lankans nationals from Amman to Colombo at a cost of \$10.6 million. The total cost of emergency aid provided by the European Commission to the evacuation programme in Jordan has reached \$38 million out of the \$77 million pledged.

The European Community

Prince Hassan welcomes France's stand on Gulf

AMMAN (Petra) — French President Francois Mitterrand's address to the U.N. General Assembly brought a ray of hope to the world because it stressed the fact that war can be avoided in the Gulf and the world can be saved from its devastating consequences, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said in a television interview.

"The views of the Soviet Union, a number of European countries and Japan with regard to this issue also provide additional rays of hope," said the Prince in an interview with the French Television.

He said His Majesty King Hussein had been striving to end the Gulf crisis by peaceful means and had secured Iraq's consent to withdraw from Kuwait, but the opportunity was lost in the course of events.

"Despite this, Jordan believes that it can play a role together with the rest of the Arab countries to bring about a peaceful settlement," Prince Hassan said.

"Through Amman, the world is communicating with Baghdad, and the Jordanian capital has been serving as a diplomatic channel for attaining a political settlement," Prince Hassan pointed out.

He said that certain Western and Arab countries accuse Jordan of siding with Iraq, but Amman has already condemned Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and has clearly pointed out that it can by no means condone the annexation of other countries, territories by force, as Israel did to Jerusalem.

Prince Hassan said that Jordan had been trying to preserve its own independent views and that it was better for the world to have Jordan play this important role as channel of communication and connection with Iraq.

The Prince said that Jordan would like to see international standards and legitimacy applied equally in all cases.

"Jordanians over the past three years have been witnessing scenes of violence in the occupied Arab territories which have caused the

Princess, who is chairperson of the fund's Board of Trustees, also discussed with Nour ways to increase bilateral cooperation on.

Minister of Agriculture Suliman Arabyat met with Dr. Nour and briefed him on agricultural projects implemented in cooperation with UNDP in Jordan. These include the development of pasture lands and the rain-fed highlands as well as projects for livestock and bee breeding.

Nour requested Arabyat to provide UNDP with detailed studies of these projects as well as the proposals of the Ministry of Agriculture so that sufficient financing can be found in the future.

death of 800 Palestinians and the injury of 45,000 others," said Prince Hassan.

"Jordan does not buy oil from Iraq, and the amounts that had been shipped to Jordan were merely payment for a \$100 million debt to the Kingdom," the Prince added.

"If Jordan had exported this oil, then it would have been a violation of the sanctions," he said.

Prince Hassan said that Jordan's borders with Iraq are almost closed and the government of Jordan has even stopped the shipment of medicines and milk, awaiting clarification about such shipments from the Security Council's Sanctions Committee.

"Jordan had been promised \$50 million in compensation for the damages and expenditures incurred directly or indirectly from the influx of refugees from Kuwait and Iraq, but it has received only \$4 million and the United States seems to be placing conditions on Jordan before sending any assistance to this country because Washington believes Amman was not doing enough to deserve such assistance," Prince Hassan pointed out.

"We have the right to decide the way we would like to live or die, this is our right in life," the Prince added.

"The world has been talking about a humanitarian problem in Eastern Europe, but we too have a humanitarian problem in the Arab and Islamic World," Prince Hassan continued. He said 300 million Arab and Muslim people inhabit the area stretching from Cairo to Islamabad, and by the end of the present century 70 per cent of these people will be under 15 years of age.

"This is certainly the real problem for the Middle East region," the Prince said.

The Prince expressed hope that no European would leave Jordan which, he stressed, would continue to shoulder its national and humanitarian responsibilities at all costs.

Taiwan, Canada, EC and Italy offer aid for evacuees

AMMAN (J.T.) — Taiwan has donated \$1.5 million to Jordan to help it carry out its humanitarian mission towards the evacuees from Iraq and Kuwait and said that it would provide in-kind assistance to Jordan for the same cause.

Salameh Hammad, head of the government appointed Evacuee Welfare Committee, received a cheque with the donation from the director of the Amman-based Middle East Trade Office.

The Taiwanese official said that his country appreciated Jordan's humanitarian efforts towards the evacuees and was planning shipments of in-kind assistance to contribute to this noble cause.

Canada has donated \$425,000 to the Jordanian government to assist it for the services to the evacuees from Iraq and Kuwait.

A cheque for the sum was handed to the head of the government-appointed Committee for the Evacuee Affairs, Salameh Hammad, by Michael Chesson, charge d'affaires at the Canadian Embassy in Amman.

Chesson expressed the Canadian government's appreciation of Jordan's efforts to provide for the evacuees and praised His Majesty King Hussein's endeavours to find solutions for the Middle East problem.

Hammad thanked the Canadian government for its contribution which, he said, would assist the government to carry on with its humanitarian work.

Meanwhile, the European Commission (EC) announced Sunday that it would pay for the repatriation of a further 10,000 Sri Lankans expected to cross into Jordan from Iraq and Kuwait over the coming few weeks, at a cost of \$4.9 million. The move was made in response to a call for assistance from the Sri Lankan government. An agreement between EC and the ambassador of Sri Lanka to Belgium was signed in Brussels on 19.10.1990.

The airift will take place over a two-week period, with the first batch of passengers expected to be flown out of Amman Monday Oct. 22.

To date, the European Commission has financed the airift of 22,783 Sri Lankans nationals from Amman to Colombo at a cost of \$10.6 million. The total cost of emergency aid provided by the European Commission to the evacuation programme in Jordan has reached \$38 million out of the \$77 million pledged.

Documents will be granted free of charge for those who had previously purchased the documents from the Municipality.

Closing date for accepting bids is 26/11/1990 at 12:00 noon at the same address above.

The European Community

inflow of foreign people from Iraq and Kuwait.

The rice was loaded in 79 containers, which are also part of an Italian grant, according to an Italian Embassy statement.

This food aid in rice, according to the statement, is only a part of the effort done by Italy for Jordan.

Jordan Times

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Leave it to peacemakers

THE BRITISH prime minister, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, told Soviet envoy Yevgeny Primakov on Saturday that her government rejected any compromise over the Gulf crisis that Moscow and Paris are trying to promote as a peaceful way out of the stalemate. U.S. President George Bush had apparently taken a similar position in the wake of Primakov's recent talk with him.

Fortunately only Washington and London are against any form of compromise with Baghdad, suggesting therefore that they prefer a military confrontation there. What is most puzzling in the declared position of Bush and Thatcher is the fact that they talk as if Kuwait and the Gulf were their own property. What right do the U.S. and Britain have to accept or reject a political solution to the Kuwaiti situation, except that they have forces stationed there? We would have thought that the Kuwaiti government was the most concerned party and it is for it and it alone to take or leave a compromise. Secondly, if war is rejected as a means to resolve the Gulf crisis and negotiation is the remaining option left for the parties to pursue, then the concerned parties must be prepared to compromise in order to attain the objectives of negotiations. All concerned states need to at least satisfy some of their objectives before any such negotiations can be fruitful. This is the essence of negotiations. Of all capitals, Washington and London should be the first to comprehend the intricacies of the situation. As the dispute between Iraq and Kuwait is a long standing one touching upon disputed territory and other issues, it would seem sensible to discuss such territorial disputes here and now in order to encourage Iraq to sit on the negotiating table instead of forcing it to precipitate a major conflagration in the Gulf region. As Moscow and Paris appear ready and able to entertain a compromise formula in the Gulf, the U.S. and Britain are likewise called upon to manifest more reasonableness in the search for a permanent settlement of the Kuwaiti situation. It must be recalled that the Iraqi military action in Kuwait did not occur in a vacuum. It was the result of historical, geographical and economic problems. The Saudi Arabian defense minister's declaration Sunday that Iraq's legitimate claims against Kuwait can still be negotiated in a brotherly fashion appears to give another glimmer of hope that Riyadh is also entertaining an amicable compromise in the Gulf crisis. What better way is there than to encourage the Arabs themselves to prepare the ground for a settlement between Iraq and Kuwait and to bring in the international community later to reach a global resolution to the conflict? Washington and London's obstinate efforts to frustrate the dedicated efforts of the Soviet Union, France, and some other Arab countries, like Jordan, could spell disaster for all sides and hopes for lasting peace. They should moderate their stance, give peace a chance, or else leave it to others to try and avoid an imminent catastrophe.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Intensive pressure being exerted on Jordan now a days can only reflect a determined effort on the part of hostile forces to end the country's steadfastness and to sell out its national stand and future generations, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Monday. The United States and the other imperialist forces are living in illusion if they believe that such pressure would force Jordan to join the U.S.-led foreign intervention in the Arabian Peninsula and array its forces against Iraq, the paper added. What the Americans and their allies are doing now is imposing an embargo on Jordan and its international trade; and this is a very dangerous game because should it continue, it would mean a declaration of war on the Jordanian people by trying to starve its children and paralyzing its economic life, the paper pointed out. It said that Jordan and the Jordanian people can by no means accept to place their heads under the American boots, and the Jordanian people can by no means allow their armed forces to serve as mercenary troops serving the aims and objectives of the enemies of the Arab Nation. What the imperialist forces aim to achieve now, the paper said, is to involve Jordan and its people and armed forces in the process of weakening the Arab Nation and stemming its growth and progress. Washington, London and the other capitals which are now hatching conspiracies against the Arab Nation should realize before it is too late the Jordan which has been exposed to hardships and pressures holds many winning cards, and will act in time and in a manner to abort all conspiracies, the paper warned.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Monday criticised the public administration system in Jordan for lacking a clear cut policy for retiring government employees, and says that the way the process has been adopted so far is resented by civil servants and members of the public alike. Salah Abdul Samad refers in his column to a recent government decision to retire several governors at the Ministry of Interior, a process which, he says, happens now and then without any proper explanation to the retired persons or the civil servants at large. The writer says that no government employee welcomes the idea of being retired before reaching 60 years of age or serving for 30 years and indeed his or her achievements during the long service in government departments won them experience that should not be easily disposed off. The writer notes that the governors retired a few days ago have the right to know the reason for the decision especially since they had offered a great service and accomplished many achievements for the state. He also says that the public administration system in Jordan should lay down specific rules and sets of criteria to be followed for retiring government employees and that humane methods should be followed in informing the retired person of his or her end of services, not through a telephone conversation or a mere note on his or her desk in the morning.

The View from Fourth Circle

The Marlboro men of morality's last ride

There are positive indications from several quarters today that the chances of resolving the crisis in the Gulf through peaceful negotiations may be greater than the prospects of a destructive military shootout. The underlying political and psychological dynamics that have run their course in the past month are significant.

1. It should be clear by now that the initial reason or excuse which the American-led Western forces used for sending about 300,000 troops to the Gulf is inaccurate and invalid. That excuse was the protection of Saudi Arabia from an alleged Iraqi threat to attack Saudi Arabia and its oil fields. No such threat ever existed. Therefore, there could be fertile diplomatic ground to explore the possibility of thinning out or changing the command structure of Western forces in the Gulf through an inter-Arab and international arrangement that would assure the security and territorial inviolability of Saudi Arabia. If this were assured, with adequate guarantees that could include great power and intra-Arab commitments through the Security Council, we would take a large step towards defusing the conflict. This would be a crucial first step towards securing an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait and resolving bilateral Iraqi-Kuwaiti disputes.

2. The international embargo against Iraq will soon start to have a significant impact. It is important to remember that the Western forces entered the Gulf in order to protect Saudi Arabia and enforce the embargo against Iraq. The embargo itself was the key mechanism which the world agreed upon to force an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait.

3. Western public opinion is slowly but surely indicating some second thoughts about

the wisdom and the scope of the Western troop build-up in the Gulf. The American budget problem has highlighted the folly and the untenability of the belief that America is using its resources to assure a new post-Cold War world order. The grassroots wisdom and rationality of the American people are making themselves felt, at last, and American politicians are taking note.

To reduce the medical benefits of elderly Americans in order to assure the profits of Texan citizens through neo-colonial thrusts half way around the world is a rather repulsive prologue to a new world order of law and justice. It is also a rather sick joke at the expense of ordinarily honourable American principles.

4. Widespread and growing Arab and international efforts to promote a negotiated settlement present enhanced chances of success in the future. French and Soviet efforts are probably the most noteworthy in this respect. Though a dramatic breakthrough is not expected, we can assume that the pace and scope of the search for diplomatic progress is a sign that the forces of reason will prevail over the forces of militarism.

5. The continued force of anti-American and anti-British sentiment in the region, in the face of the greatest single military mobilisation since World War II, should make it clear to Bush, Thatcher & Co. that the people of much of the Arab World have embarked on an important historical phase of their 500-year-old struggle against foreign imperial and colonial interference. Even if a war breaks out and Iraq is militarily checked or defeated, we would find ourselves at the start of a long term and probably violent cycle of Arab-Western confrontation. Such a

development would be costly and divisive, and would serve nobody's long-term interests. It should be avoided, if possible.

6. Most important of all, I think, the chances of negotiations are enhanced by the fact that Iraq can be seen to have achieved virtually all of its political objectives. Therefore it can afford to withdraw from Kuwait according to terms that would be acceptable to itself, the Western forces allied against it, and the other Arabs who are calling for a negotiated solution free of Western military threats. In this respect, I would list Iraq's political achievements as follows:

a. It has sent a clear message to the Gulf states that they are vulnerable and perhaps even untenable entities that cannot expect to be left alone if they pursue arrogant policies that threaten the livelihood and national security of other Arab peoples. The political order in the Gulf which the British left behind in the first half of this century has proved itself to be a cruel fiction. It may have served British imperial interests decades ago, but it has been a resounding failure in terms of its ability to assure the Arab people of a life of honesty, justice, productivity, security and dignity.

Such an order can and should exist only on the basis of marshalling Arab resources in the service of pan-Arab goals, interests and aspirations, within a broader international order based on justice and mutual interests. It cannot exist on the basis of make-believe, miniature countries that have to scurry under the armour of American and British troops, and it cannot perpetuate financial flows that serve the interests of Western banks and oil companies before they serve the dreams and hopes of

200 million other fellow Arabs. Iraq has made the world come to grips with the reality that an Arab World destined to live with grotesque economic distortions and disequilibrium will reach the point where its people rise up and rebel against an unjust and untenable order that was formulated by the British and French and sustained by the Israelis and Americans.

b. It has sent a message to Israel that the Arab people will not forever remain docile and quiescent before the reality of an Israeli state that seeks to be a predatory regional superpower. It has made the world recognise that peace and stability in the Gulf or any other part of the Middle East are unattainable if Palestine, through the political fear and economic greed of the great powers, is ordained to remain in a state of injustice and instability. It has shown the West that its celebration of a new post-Cold War political order is partial and premature, as long as five million Palestinians and many millions of other Arabs in Lebanon, Syria and Jordan continue to suffer a debilitating national agony.

c. It has sent a message to the international community of nations that the global instrument of a just and stable world order — the United Nations and its Security Council and General Assembly resolutions — cannot be taken seriously if the legal dictates of that world order are applied selectively in different countries. If Iraq should not occupy and colonise Kuwait — and certainly it should not — then Israel should not occupy and colonise Palestine, and the United States should not finance that Israeli occupation and colonization.

The zealotry that has characterised the international re-

sponse to Kuwait must be repeated with equal vigour in other conflicts in which one people is unjustly aggrieved by another. Last week, we saw the sickening spectacle of the United States government working overtime at the United Nations to generate a resolution on a fact-finding mission to Palestine that would be toothless and meaningless. If the United States and its partners shift into over-drive for Kuwait but stall in neutral for Palestine, they cannot expect anything other than the kind of disdain which they have generated from many parts of the Arab World this month.

d. And, Iraq has sent a message to the Western powers that their tradition of imperial and colonial control of Arab lands and resources must come to an end, in the same way that the Soviet empire has ended in Europe. Unwittingly or not, the Iraqis have rekindled the spark of pan-Arab nationalism that has remained in the hearts of all Arabs for all of this century. This does not mean that Saddam Hussein will be chosen as the leader of the Arabs, or that other Arab peoples will choose to emulate the domestic political system which prevails in Iraq. But it does mean that tens of millions of Arabs are standing up once again and forcefully telling the Americans and the British that we will not, as we did earlier this century, stand by idly as foreign troops threaten with a political and economic order which has been shown to be a failure in all respects, whether in terms of our domestic life, regional integration or international relationships.

It is unfortunate that it required the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait to bring these points to the attention of the world. This does not justify Iraq's actions or support its present posture.

One would have preferred that these lessons could have been learned without the subjugation of Kuwait. But, this is the reality of what has happened in the past 11 weeks. More important, perhaps, it could help point the way out of the present crisis.

The essential fact has been established: this is not a conflict only about Iraq and Kuwait, much as the West's Marlboro men of morality's last ride would like us to believe. Deep, pent-up feelings of disenchantment, anger and humiliation throughout the Arab World have been summoned forth since Aug. 2 to redraw the terms of reference of this conflict. This is now a battle being fought over a legacy of Western imperial and colonial adventures in our lands and homes, over a history of international lassitude towards the plight of the Palestinians and the honour of hundreds of millions of other Arabs, and over a pattern of intra-Arab inequality and profugacy which cannot endure without producing new generations of Arabs fired by humiliation and rage.

Despite the emotionalism and heightened tensions of the moment, we should not lose sight of the fact that the aspirations of the Arabs and the objectives of the West still can be achieved simultaneously — the freedom of Kuwait, Palestine, Lebanon and Syria, and a rational, stable Arab order which responds to the aspirations of all Arabs, and not only those with gold credit cards drawn on the Imperial Bank of Bush and Thatcher. The aspirations of all concerned can be achieved simultaneously — if they is sufficient clarity of mind, honesty of history and coolness of nerves to appreciate the full dimensions of the present situation on the ground and in people's hearts and minds.

Germany can't stop worrying and learn to love communists

By Andrew Gumbel
Reuter

Affairs Erich Paetzold, still believes the PDS transferred the money illegally to Norway and the Netherlands and says he had to act fast before evidence disappeared.

But political observers agree that a similar raid on one of the mainstream parties would be unthinkable.

"The PDS hasn't been hammed. It must be given the same rights as anyone else," said Burkhard Hirsch, a senior member of the Liberal Free Democrats.

His view is not shared by Lutz Stavenhagen, state secretary responsible for the secret services, who said in an interview published on Sunday that the PDS might be a security risk.

"Our intelligence officials are carefully checking whether the PDS has acted or spoken out against the constitution...and whether we should keep watch on them," he told *Bunte Magazine*.

The PDS's previous incarnation, the Socialist Unity Party (SED), headed an authoritarian state kept in check by vast security police network, the Stasi.

The party took over prime property throughout East Germany. Its disgraced former leaders are under investigation for embezzling state funds for their own or the party's profit.

They were looking for evidence of an alleged fraud worth 100 million marks (\$67 million) but came away empty-handed.

The man who ordered the raid, Berlin's Councillor for Internal Affairs, was still investigating.

Their main accomplishment was to deflect attention from Ms. Bhutto's dismal record, revive memories of the military overthrow in 1977 and subsequent execution of her father, Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, and cast her as the martyr.

She still faces the threat of disqualification because of the half dozen court cases pending against her.

Ms. Bhutto predicted the caretaker government would make a last-ditch attempt to pressure the special tribunals to exclude her from politics.

Even if they succeed, she said, there is still her mother to contend with.

"These little guys think it's that easy to get rid of the Bhuttos," she asked with a grin. "They shouldn't forget the name Begum Nusrat Bhutto."

Israel's role in the Gulf crisis

The following two letters to the editor are reprinted from the *Guardian* newspaper under the above headline.

The decision by the government of Israel not to cooperate with the United Nations Security Council investigating last week's killings of Arabs in Jerusalem (*Guardian*, October 15) is hard to understand. But even more puzzling is the attitude of Israel's allies in Washington, without whom Israel would become an easy prey in Arab aggression — as easy as Kuwait; there has been some grandly righteous posturing about that in Washington, but no one seems to have taken account of the comparable crimes perpetrated by Israel in the Arab territories west of the Jordan.

Meanwhile Saddam Hussein has drawn attention to this other lamentable situation and offered to withdraw provided Israel withdraws. He probably wouldn't, but that doesn't alter the moral situation.

Those of us who fear his pretensions, yet say or do nothing about the West Bank, have in him the enemy we deserve, especially those who as Christians have supported Israel on the grounds of merely Biblical affirmations of Israel's right to lands west of Jordan and the Dead Sea.

Abrams living within Israel would not recognise that country as the benign and liberal democracy which its apologists present. Their reality is of a fascist tyranny devoid of respect for human rights and in which they as Abrams are treated as racial inferiors.

Meanwhile Israel was offered by no less an Arab than Yasser Arafat the acknowledgement of its right to exist. What more does it want? Why not Washington bring immediate pressure to bear on Israel about the Arab lands on its territory? Never mind, if Washington will not lean on Israel, Britain can lean on its American allies. What would the President feel if Britain were to pull out of his carefully fostered anti-Iraqi alliance unless some righteous action were taken against Israel?

Christopher Pilkington, (Hon Canon Emeritus, Bristol, Grove House, Cornwallis Grove, Bristol).

Having recently returned from the Occupied Territories and Israel, I can say that to visit Palestinians there is to gain a different and at least equally compelling perspective to that often presented with regard to both Israel and the Gulf conflict.

Palestinians are short of water. Land is expropriated without effective compensation or appeal. At a whim, water and electricity can be cut off. Twenty-four hour curfews can be suddenly imposed. Harassment is normal and expected, in the extent that the purpose of the occupation is seen less as the defence of Israel and increasingly as

part of a long-term plan to pressurise the Palestinians to the East of the Jordan River.

Against this background, it is hardly surprising that refugee camps are decorated with Palestinian and Iraqi flags and combined portraits of Arafat and Saddam Hussein. No one else has offered to relieve generations of injustice, suffering and humiliation. At last it appears that a fellow Arab has the power to deliver.

For such people, an Arab dictator, however brutal, crucified on the cross of Western self interest will be as potent as alive. He should not have invaded Kuwait and should be removed by appropriate means. But to Abrams suffering under the Israeli yoke, the Gulf crisis is about cheap and plentiful oil to the "haves" of the West — and the unmerited protection of Israel. Other occupations go unreversed. Double standards prevail.

To remove Saddam Hussein without securing justice for the Palestinians would produce an enduring and seismic Arab reaction against those responsible. Thus are the Palestinian and Gulf crisis linked.

Tony Marlow, (Con, Northampton North), House of Commons, London SW1.

Will the army let Benazir Bhutto return to power?

By Sharon Herbaugh
The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — Benazir Bhutto's opponents may bar her from office even if she gets the most votes in next week's election, or she might let them take over and risk political disaster in the economic crunch ahead.

Suspicion has grown that martial law will be declared to keep Ms. Bhutto out of power, although top generals deny it. The army and the president wouldn't kick her out just to let her return three months later, the argument goes.

After 11 weeks of name-calling and nearly a dozen unresolved court cases, 50 million voters will be eligible to deliver their verdict Wednesday.

Economists say Pakistan is in for hard times because of a large debt, dwindling reserves, higher oil prices and a sharp decline in exports.

Whether she will be permitted to resume office has been a nagging question ever since Ms.

pitted against the Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA), a loose coalition spanning the ideological spectrum and united only by opposition to Ms. Bhutto.

"We made mistakes, no doubt about it," Ms. Bhutto said in the interview. "Any government is going to have differences of perceptions, but it's in the national interest that they be resolved."

Getting her nut of office was easy enough, but the president and caretaker government made serious miscalculations afterward.

Ms. Bhutto, 37, was dragged from court to court in an attempt to prove she was Pakistan's most corrupt and incompetent leader. Her husband and dozens of supporters were arrested on what they claimed were trumped-up charges.

Her opponents portrayed her as bad Muslim, a traitor who gave state secrets to India and sympathised with Israel.

Their main accomplishment was to deflect attention from Ms. Bhutto's dismal record, revive memories of the military overthrow in 1977 and subsequent execution of her father, Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, and cast her as the martyr.

Features

Free market policy freed from smuggling

By Kathleen Callo
Reuter

said. "Instead of paying for those imports, we are spending one quarter of that amount on smuggled consumer goods."

The success of the government's anti-smuggling drive was evident in the last week of September when the black market rates for the U.S. dollar and gold — a more accurate indicator of conditions than the state bank rates — fell to their lowest levels in months, economists said.

One dollar bought 4,000 dong in April and soared to 7,000 dong by mid-September, but it dipped suddenly to 5,800 dong in the last week of September when demand for dollars slumped as police clamped down on smugglers, economists said.

The drive is one of several government measures to help Vietnam cope with the painful transition from a centrally planned economy to one exposed to free market forces, state economists said.

Hanoi newspapers have been filled in recent weeks with reports of customs police capturing hundreds of smugglers.

Several people were killed along the southwestern border with Cambodia in clashes between Vietnamese customs police and smugglers, one economist said.

Hanoi banned the import of all foreign cigarettes from Oct. 1 to protect local cigarette production.

Police in 19 provinces foiled attempts to smuggle in 721,000 cartons of foreign cigarettes valued at 10 billion dong (\$3 million) between Aug. 3 and Oct. 2, the army newspaper Quan Doi Nhan Dan reported. They recovered more than one billion dong (\$167,000) in taxes.

About 80 per cent of smuggled goods come from Thailand — by sea or by land across Cambodia and Laos — and the rest from China, said Le Xuan Nghia, an economist at the government's Institute for Scientific Research of Market and Price.

"It's a big problem for Vietnam's economy because those things smuggled in from Thailand are not being taxed," Nghia said in an interview.

Hanoi cannot afford to see precious foreign exchange used to finance contraband. Exports totalled only \$1.8 billion in 1989, Nghia said. A similar figure was expected this year.

"We have to use that hard currency to pay for oil products and other production materials, equipment and technology," he

Religion vs army battle continues in Burma

By Kevin Cooney
Reuter

BANGKOK — The army and the Buddhist faith, the dual centres of Burma's split personality, are in mortal conflict over the decision by many monks to protest against military rule by simply doing nothing.

Soldiers have surrounded three monasteries in Mandalay and it looks like they plan to go in," an informed source in the capital, Rangoon, told Reuters by telephone.

Monks say two of their colleagues were shot dead in August during an anti-government demonstration in Mandalay. Since then, many monks have refused to accept alms from soldiers or tend to the religious needs of their families.

Soldiers have had to wed and welcome the births of their children without blessings and bury their dead without benefit of clergy.

Senior monks have demanded that General Saw Maung, head of the ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) apologise on national radio and television for the incident.

Now, since midnight on Saturday, Buddhist organisations participating in the boycott have been banned by the SLORC.

"These illegal organisations through their deeds, words and publications are threatening, blackmailing and boycotting the state government and are found to be undermining law and order," the SLORC announced on radio Rangoon as martial music played ominously in the background.

The music was a reminder of 1988 when the army turned their backs on unarmed democracy campaigners and killed hundreds, including monks.

"The monks have a hold over the common soldier that a politician does not have," a Rangoon-based diplomat said, as the boycott spread south to the capital. "But they are taking an increasingly confrontational course that's leading them to danger."

"The army has shown before that it does not regard a monk's robe as sacred."

There are 50,000 temples in Burma and 300,000 monks and novices at any one time, official figures indicate. The army has ruled the country in one guise or another for three decades.

"I have tolerated as much as I can and you, my teachers, can see that I have also been doing whatever is necessary. I have decided to take measures that should be taken," Saw Maung told a gathering of abbots last week.

He told them the situation in Burma today reminded him of the problems faced by King Anamrahta, who ruled a vast realm from the city of Pagan from 1044 to 1077.

Anamrahta made war against a group of secessionist priests in northern Burma and sent tens of thousands of their followers into exile.

Mandalay, the main northern city of modern Burma, was at the centre of 1988's anti-government campaign and has remained relatively quiet.

"Monks are the last challenge for the government," the Rangoon source said.

He said the National League for Democracy, which overwhelmingly won an election in May only to be refused any role in government by the army, was "important at the moment."

Another diplomat based in the capital said he would not rule out wholesale arrests of clergymen.

A Burma analyst at a Western embassy in Bangkok saw the government's ban as "a major escalation of the situation."

"They [the ruling generals] are obviously very worried," he added. "I don't see how either side can back down. Messing with religion in Burma is a very dodgy business."



The emperor and empress of Japan

Broken traditions continue to draw frowns in Japan

By Eric Talmadge
The Associated Press

TOKYO — When the heir to Japan's throne announced more than 30 years ago that he would wed a commoner, the nation's former aristocracy lamented the end of an era.

Six months later, the statement still dogs Japan.

"It [the statement] was just too big an error," said Pierre Azéma, a 69-year-old former radio broadcaster from Montreal.

The party says individual rights

have been trampled on by a government yielding to the collective will of the French-speaking majority.

In 1988, the liberal government headed by Robert Bourassa invoked a controversial clause in the constitution to override a federal high court ruling and push through the law on shop signs.

The court had said the law

violated individual freedom of expression.

"There are many ways to promote and preserve and enrich the vitality of the French language without the recourse of language restrictions," said 29-year-old party leader Robert Libman, nicknamed the "boy leader."

Libman infuriated French Quebecers earlier this year when he said the province's English speakers were in some respects worse off than French Canadians in the rest of Canada. He sought police protection after receiving dozens of death threats.

Six months later, the statement still dogs Japan.

"It [the statement] was just too big an error," said Pierre Azéma, a political scientist at Montreal's English-speaking McGill University. "It makes it just about impossible for them to attract a prominent Francophone."

anyone else," Watanabe said. "Just being who she is has also attracted the nation to her."

And, Watanabe said, without the precedent set by Michiko, the wedding early this summer of the royal couple's younger son, Prince Akihito, to another commoner, Princess Kiko, might not have been possible.

Kiko is the daughter of a professor of far humbler means than Michiko's wealthy father, and lived in a small apartment with her family until moving to the palace.

Watanabe, who served the imperial family for 10 years, described Michiko as strong-willed, thoughtful and "clever, but not wise."

She met with a great deal of opposition along the way, and in her face you could tell when her life was particularly difficult," said Midori Watanabe, a professor of women's studies at Bunka Women's University.

Watanabe, who served the imperial family for 10 years, described Michiko as strong-willed, thoughtful and "clever, but not wise."

He said that although Michiko is not a Christian, her Catholic education gave her a strong sense of perseverance and the ability to withstand the pressures of her rank.

Michiko, a former reporter

who covered the palace for more

than two decades for a Japanese television network, described Michiko's impact on the throne as "historic, reflecting the democratic society of postwar Japan."

"She has done more to open up the palace to the people than

I had the full approval of the emperor and empress, but it took a lot of courage, since, after all, the child I was disciplining is a future emperor," he said.

The former chamberlain said that to this day the emperor and his family still call him "Mr. Hamao," a sign of respect that was inconceivable before the war.

Mouse traps still a source of human fascination

By Julia Hayley
Reuter

BEDWAS, Wales — The French favour of a line of garottes, which can snap tight up to 10 at a time.

Those designed to be humane are not necessarily so. The mouse often dies of fright or starves to death, Procter says.

An elegant African trap in his collection is made from woven thorn tree twigs with the thorns pointing inwards like barbs on a fish hook.

One of the most dramatic is a replica of an ancient Egyptian trap used in tombs to stop rats and mice eating the offerings of food and probably the bodies too, Procter says.

It is a shoe-box sized clay box with four slits in each side and a neat oval trap door triggered by the mouse or rat eating the bait at the far end.

Procter, director of Procter Brothers — makers of Little Nipper mousetraps — confesses to being a fanatical mouseculist.

Various modern plastic traps

— intended to catch the mouse alive — failed to account for the animal's ability to turn round in a tight space.

Those designed to be humane are not necessarily so. The mouse often dies of fright or starves to death, Procter says.

The ingenuity people have applied to this problem over the years is very appealing."

The golden age for mousetrap invention was the second half of the last centuries, Procter says. A catalogue dated 1898-1900 has a rich variety of cages, springs, spikes and chutes.

Peak usage in Britain was probably during the post World War II slum clearances.

For those outside the slums, mice have been somewhat of an embarrassment, says John Parry, who has worked in Procter's mousetrap factory for 38 years.

Mice are traditionally associated with dirt and people often do not want their neighbours to know they have mice.

Mousetrap sales used to be "a plain brown wrapper, under the

counter job," according to Procter.

Even now, Parry says, local research shows people in this part of Wales will often go to another town where they are not known to buy their traps.

Traps are still the most effective method of killing mice, he says.

Poisons will never outdo traps: They take 24 hours to work and in that time the mouse can have mated with another, and the offspring may be immune."

And mice are not far behind rabbits in their breeding capacity, Parry says. They start breeding at eight weeks and a pair can produce 2,500 offspring in a year.

With mild winters and plentiful litter on the streets mice and rats are flourishing, Procter says.

Sales look good.

Traps do not have to be complex. Sometimes the simplest designs work best, he says.

Procter Brothers' Little Nipper mousetrap, which the firm claims

is the world's best-selling, is unchanged from its 1898 design.

It is one of many variations of the break-back trap — a simple block of wood with a powerful spring that snaps shut on the mouse's head.

Traps are still the most effective method of killing mice, he says.

Poisonous will never outdo traps: They take 24 hours to work and in that time the mouse can have mated with another, and the offspring may be immune."

Even if the 20th century has produced few of the best traps, modern civilisation does have something to offer in mouse baiting.

Cheese is out of fashion.

Peanut butter is in.

Anything sweet will do, Parry says. Chocolate or raisins can also work, but if you use a dry piece of bait a clever mouse will lift it off.

One Londoner who has had trouble with mice, but declined to be named, swears by strawberry yoghurt.

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exclusive gift shop

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leather goods,

Gullit finally scores for AC Milan

By Reuters

AC Milan fans had their patience rewarded at long last Sunday when Dutch International Ruud Gullit sealed his return from injury with his first Italian League goal in 19 months.

"I dedicate this goal to Milan who had so much faith in me," the tall Dutchman, who missed most of last season with a knee injury, said after hitting his team's equaliser two minutes from the final whistle at Napoli's San Paolo Stadium.

Argentine Diego Maradona, who had put Napoli 1-0 ahead five minutes earlier from a penalty, was among the first to congratulate Gullit after the match — the Dutchman's delight.

"Gullit is smiling," declared a front-page headline in the popular *La Gazzetta dello Sport* newspaper Monday.

The draw meant Milan stayed top of the league, one point ahead of city rivals Internazionale who prepared for Wednesday's UEFA Cup second-round, first-leg match at Aston Villa in England with a 6-3 thrashing of early-season leaders Pisa.

Lazio trainer Dino Zoff,

abruptly dumped by Juventus as coach last year, returned to Turin and was roundly applauded by the local fans who still miss him. The match ended 0-0.

Napoli, who face Spartak Moscow in the European Cup Wednesday, will be without Brazilian striker Careca who injured his left thigh when he slipped while trying to save a ball.

In France, star-studded Marseille were beaten 2-1 at Sochaux, their second loss in four games this season since coach Franz Beckenbauer took over.

"Sochaux played very well from start to finish. The result is only logical. But we did not play too badly," Beckenbauer said, in an apparent attempt to stave off controversy.

But his players did not share his point of view.

"It was a disaster from the first to the last minute. We simply did not play. It is a harder blow than our first defeat against Cannes," International defender Bernard Casoni said.

In the Netherlands, both Ajax and PSV Eindhoven came under fire for lacklustre performances at the weekend.

"Ajax play with broken wings" read the headline in the Algerian *Dagblad* newspaper after the Dutch champions and league leaders drew 0-0 against 16th-placed FC Utrecht.

Cup Winners PSV had a 3-1 victory against RKC Waalwijk but won no accolades for their style of play either.

They also suffered a string of injuries, with Brazilian striker Romario taken off with an ankle injury and Romanian Giga Popescu substituted after suffering a groin strain.

Spanish champions Real Madrid limped away from Real Oviedo with a 0-0 draw after goalkeeper Francisco Biyo had rescued the match with a dramatic penalty save in the 60th minute.

Real's neighbours Atletico Madrid drew 0-0 on German Bernd Schuster's first home appearance for the club against Burgos.

In Germany, Bayern Munich, who face Bulgaria's CFKA Sredets Sofia in the second round of the European Cup Tuesday, bounced back from a spell of patchy form with a 6-1 defeat of

Hamburg to take over at the top of the Bundesliga.

After a 4-0 defeat by Cologne last week, coach Jupp Heynckes did some serious talking with his players during the week.

It paid off as Bayern took over the top on goal difference from Kaiserslautern who surprisingly lost 4-2 at Karlsruhe.

Meanwhile Portuguese champions Porto and Benfica kept up their pursuit of first division leaders Sporting Lisbon with 2-0 wins Sunday.

Porto moved to within two points of Sporting, who won their eighth successive league match by beating Nacional Madeira 2-0 Saturday, with a controversial away victory over Setubal.

The home team claimed Fernando Couto scored the 35th minute opening goal with his hand. Antonio Semedo made it 2-0 with a fine solo goal five minutes from time.

Benfica, one point behind Porto with a game in hand, had little trouble disposing of another Madeira team, Uniao, who did not help their cause when midfielder Dragan Markovich missed a first half penalty.

UAE beats Jordan in under-16 Asian soccer

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Host United Arab Emirates (UAE) and China continued their impressive form in the fourth Asian Youth Soccer Championships in Dubai with decisive victories over Jordan and India, respectively.

The UAE beat Jordan 5-1, with the score 4-0 at half-time.

The Chinese recovered after conceding an early goal to India to win 3-1. China trailed at half-time 0-1.

Both UAE and China, having won their first two Group A qualifying matches, seemed certain to qualify for the semi-finals of this seven-nation tournament on Oct. 26.

In Group B, Qatar, South Korea and Indonesia are battling for the semi-final berths. South Korea and Indonesia drew 1-1 Saturday.

UAE burst ahead with three goals within four minutes in the

first half, by Saad Hassan in the sixth minute, Saeed Khamsi in the eighth and Ahmed Qasim in the 10th. Adel Mohammed widened the lead in the 26th minute and Khamsi connected again in the 63rd.

Jordan's only reply was a fine shot by Mumtaz Jouda in the 61st minute.

Vijay Kumar put the Indians ahead in the eighth minute, but China struck back after half-time on two goals by Li Yuzhang in the 49th and 76th minutes and one by Zhang Yi in the 56th to snatch the victory.

Seven teams divided into two groups are taking part in this 10-day tournament which began Friday. Saudi Arabia has pulled out because of the current Gulf crisis.

The top three teams from this competition will qualify for the under-16 world championship in Ecuador next year.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY OCTOBER 23, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This first day of Scorpio brings you in close contact with well informed, creative individuals who are well known in the field your wanting to develop a career in. Listen...

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Fine organise your day's effort so they're productive of best results, but be steady in continuing to proceed with them; tonight enjoy a bigwig closer to you.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Consider well those interesting new ventures with which you wish to be connected from an enlarged stance; tonight enjoy some new site with friend.

TAUROUS: (April 20 to May 20) Think what you can do of a creative nature today and then get into the specifics of doing just that while tonight join a companion in a hobby.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You have some duties at your residence that are clear to you in the morning so use every spare moment to get them well done; tonight fix a new budget.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Devise a course where you can get in touch with whomever you have some important dealing, then do your own job; tonight you can build up your vitality.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Consider your various income and liabilities and attend to them in a scrupulous manner today and you raise credit; tonight discuss money matters with mate.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 21) Quickly get into some new ideas about putting across your talent in the morning and make it operate successfully; tonight enjoy any entertainment you like.

terests and desires; in the evening join good friends at pleasant recreations.

LIBRA: (September 22 to October 22) Get your ideas arranged so you can make more progress in outside world in confidence with an advisor; this evening do what will bring a bigwig closer to you.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Take some time out to gain the goodwill of an influential person who can be helpful to you there in the evening do what builds up your assets.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) You have a chance to enlarge your present activities by some inspired ideas in the morning, then think of ways to carry these out quickly.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Any important business matters facing you have a good chance of working out well by going into them this very good day, be thorough.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Quickly get into some new ideas about putting across your talent in the morning and make it operate successfully; tonight enjoy any entertainment you like.

Senna determined to equal Prost's three world titles

SUZUKA, Japan (R) — Ayrton Senna, the new Formula One world drivers' champion, is determined to do all he can next season to equal Alain Prost's three world titles.

Already a record-holder with 51 pole positions — his nearest on the list is Scotsman Jim Clark with 33 — and twice a champion, the Brazilian declared after Sunday's controversial Japanese Grand Prix that he still had more to prove.

After celebrating his second championship at Suzuka, Senna pledged to test through the winter if necessary to help keep his McLaren team ahead in the world's top formula of motor sport.

"I think we might be a little bit behind Ferrari right now," he said of the Italian team led by his French rival Prost. "But there is plenty of time and we are all aware of this."

"We want to be as strong again as we were in 1988. We are all professionals and if we need to test all year to see through the programme for the best car for next year then that is what (Austrian) Gerhard (Berger) and I will do," he said.

Senna's pledge to pursue even higher targets will be bad news for everyone else on the grid in the new year.

The 30-year-old driver from Sao Paulo proved Sunday that he possesses not only abundant skill and dedication in the cockpit of a Formula One car but also a ruthless streak which once again led him into a feud with his former team mate Prost.

The pair collided at the first corner of the race and a disgusted Prost later accused Senna of deliberately shunting him off the track — and thereby winning the title.

Senna, who said he did not "give a damn" about Prost's criticisms, explained the thinking behind his racing philosophy — and revealed some of his differences with the Frenchman when he said: "Nothing is really going to change my life."

"I love winning and I love going fast and I love breaking records and I love finding new situations where I can find myself getting better and better," he

said.

"To improve and get better is what I love and motor racing gives this to me. I will carry on as long as I have this feeling," he said.

The experience you get year after year counts a lot for you to be more thoughtful in your driving. Thinking about driving with your mind instead of with your heart.

"I think I have learned a lot over the years and I have improved a lot consistently...race after race, year after year. And I hope I can continue to do so in the future."

As Senna looked ahead to further glory and a chance to even the honour with Prost, it was clear that Prost was looking for ways in which to restrict the Brazilian's aggressive style.

Frost even threatened to give up Formula One if the sport's ruling body FISA failed to find a way of controlling the man he thinks is putting everyone else at risk.

He said: "They must make changes in the regulations. If there are no changes, then it may not be possible for me to carry on. I am not prepared to fight against irresponsible people who are not afraid to die."

While the two continued their war of words, Benetton celebrated their one-two in Sunday's race.

Brazilian Nelson Piquet and Roberto Moreno finished first and second — Piquet winning his first race since 1987.

Afterwards, Benetton director Flavio Briatore dedicated their performance to Alessandro Nannini, the Italian Benetton driver who is recovering after an operation to saw back part of his arm, severed in a helicopter crash 10 days ago.

"One way or another, the year seems to be ending in a dramatic way for us but this win has given us great hope for next year," Briatore said.

Nannini was released from the Florence hospital Monday.

"He's doing well, he's essentially out of danger," said Dr. Carlo Bufalini, who took nine hours to stitch Nannini's arm together on Oct. 12.

Manchester United, Arsenal charged after soccer brawl

LONDON (R) — Manchester United and Arsenal were charged with bringing soccer into disrepute.

Monday after their English League match at Old Trafford Saturday descended into a 21-man brawl.

The English Football Association (F.A.) said the clubs had also been charged with a second offence under a regulation governing their responsibility for players' behaviour.

The F.A. had received a report from referee Keith Hackett on the 60th-minute incident, which held up the match for two minutes, and expected to hold their inquiry early next month, a spokesman said.

Arsenal and Manchester, who have both promised internal investigations, have been given 14 days to respond to the charges.

The incident flared up following a clash between Swedish international Anders Limpar, scorer of Arsenal's winning goal, and United defender Dennis Irwin.

Arsenal goalkeeper David Seaman was the only player on the pitch not involved.

Ivanisevic beats Leconte to win EC championship

ANTWERP, Belgium (AP) — Goran Ivanisevic of Yugoslavia combined lightning serves and booming groundstrokes to beat Henri Leconte of France 6-2, 7-6, 8-6, 4-6, 4-6, 6-1 Sunday and won the 1.1-million-dollar European Community championship.

The fourth-seeded Ivanisevic blew a two-set lead against the hustling, creative Leconte, before they could turn their full attention to Tuesday's European Cup Winners' Cup second-round, first-leg match against Welsh side Wrexham.

The Yugoslav, ranked 11th in the world, had lived dangerously throughout the tournament.

When order was restored, the referee booked Limpar and team mate Nigel Winterburn.

Last season Arsenal were fined \$20,000 (\$38,980) and warned about their future conduct after similar trouble in a league match at Highbury against Norwich, who were fined £50,000 (\$97,450).

The F.A. could impose a heavy fine on Arsenal and United or even deduct league points.

United Manager Alex Ferguson later disciplined players who had been involved in the brawl, although he refused to identify the individuals concerned or specify their punishment.

"I've had the players in this morning and we went through the video of Saturday's incident together," Ferguson said. "We have taken the appropriate action."

Ferguson said he had acted swiftly to punish his players so that they could then turn their full attention to Tuesday's European Cup Winners' Cup second-round, first-leg match.

The Yugoslav, ranked 11th in the world, had lived dangerously throughout the tournament.

Martinez wins Arizona Classic

SCOTTSDALE, Arizona (R) — Top seed Conchita Martinez of Spain successfully defended her title at the \$150,000 Arizona Tennis Classic when she beat unseeded American Marianne Werdel 7-5, 6-1 Sunday. Martinez, ranked 10th in the world, claimed her second title of the year and a \$27,000 winner's check using the same strategy that carried her to the final without the loss of a set. The 18-year-old Spaniard delivered an array of off-speed, looping groundstrokes that kept Werdel from finding any rhythm.

"I knew if I wanted to beat her, I had to hit his high balls to her," Martinez said of her tactics that kept Werdel pinned to the baseline. "She was very difficult to play and hits the ball very hard." Werdel, who upset second seed Amy Frazier, fourth seed Susan Sloane and fifth seed Lori McNeil on her way to the final, put up a good fight during the first set of the 78-minute match.

Rosset beats Wilander in Lyon

LYON (AP) — Marc Rosset of Switzerland won his first indoor title Sunday, beating Mats Wilander of Sweden 6-3, 6-2 in the \$500,000 Lyon Grand Prix Tennis Tournament. "I wanted to win a tournament before the end of the year and today I've made it," Rosset, the No. 6 seed, said. Rosset, 19, dominated Wilander, a former No. 1 player who is in a two-year slump, during the 1-hour, 15-minute match. Rosset got off to a slow start in the first set, but a double-fault and forced error by Wilander in the eighth game gave the Swiss player a service break to put him up 5-3. He then held serve to win the set. In the second set, Rosset jumped to a 5-1 lead.

Soviets dominate wrestling

OSTIA, Italy (AP) — Soviet wrestlers dominated the World Greco-Roman Wrestling Championships, winning six of the 10 gold medals Sunday. Germany, fielding its first unified team at a world championship sports competition, won two golds, while Hungary and Cuba captured one each. Soviet wrestlers reached the final in nine of the 10 weight classes, ranging from 48 kilos (106 pounds) to 130 kilos (286 pounds). The Soviets topped the team standings with 95 points, followed by Hungary with 49 and Germany with 44. More than 200 athletes from 47 nations took part in the three-day competition, held in this seaside resort outside Rome.

Australian wins Kyoto singles title

KYOTO, Japan (AP) — Australian Kristine Radford rallied to defeat Japan's Rika Hiraki 6-7 (2-7), 6-3, 6-3 Sunday to win the Bridgestone Japan Women's Tennis Circuit tournament. Trailing 1-3 in the third set, Radford, the No. 3 seed, saved two break points in the fifth game and then took the next four games to win the match. Radford then paired with Australian compatriot Kerry-Anne Guse to defeat the Japanese pair of Yasuyo Kijita and Hiraki 6-3, 6-4 for the doubles title in the match played at the Kyoto Obatagawa Tennis Court in western Japan.

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris

Sri Lanka to request more aid

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — Sri Lanka will ask for \$350 million in aid from developed countries and donor agencies at a meeting in Paris Tuesday, a finance ministry official said Monday. The aid request "will be to meet a myriad of economic problems plus the big one caused by the Gulf crisis," said finance ministry spokesman Prabath Manawasinghe. The request, if approved, would be \$104 million more than Sri Lanka received last year. Officials estimate Sri Lanka's losses at three billion rupees (\$75 million) this year as a consequence of Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait. That figure includes \$32.5 million in remittances from 90,000 Sri Lankans working in Kuwait and an oil bill \$25 million higher than expected.

Biggest bank in U.S. posts 38% profit drop

NEW YORK (R) — Citicorp, the biggest banking company in the United States, has said its profits slumped 38 per cent in the third quarter of the year. The gloom at Citicorp underscored the jitters spreading through much of the banking industry as the economy sputters, and the bank predicted the worst was far from over as it joined a string of big banks hit by delinquent real estate loans.

Manufacturers Hanover Corp., the eighth-largest U.S. bank, meanwhile reported a profit of \$77 million for the quarter but set aside millions to cover potential loan defaults.

Earnings at Citicorp, Manufacturers Hanover and other big banks might have been even worse had it not been for strong profits from foreign currency trading, industry analysts said.

New York-based Citicorp wrote off \$201 million and put aside another \$82 million in the quarter, largely to cover delinquent real estate loans and write-offs on leveraged buyouts.

This ate into its net income, which fell to \$221 million, or 56 cents a share, from \$358 million, or 99 cents a share, in the third quarter of 1989.

"Citicorp believes that it has aggressively responded to deterioration of domestic real estate values... (but) this market has not yet stabilised," the company said.

Citicorp shares fell on the report, losing \$1.125 to close at \$13 on the New York Stock Exchange, where it was the most active issues.

U.S. tobacco exports surge

PRINCETON, New Jersey (AP) — The U.S. tobacco industry recorded a trade surplus of \$2.5 billion for the first half of 1990, an increase of \$54 billion from the same period last year, an industry group has said. The United States exported \$2.95 billion worth of tobacco products and raw leaf during the first six months of 1990, according to Thomas Slane, a vice-president of the Tobacco Merchants Association. The bulk of this, \$2.2 billion, was finished products, including shipments of 73.7 billion cigarettes worth \$2.05 billion. The United States imported \$463 million worth of tobacco during the first half of the year, most of which was bulk leaf, Slane said. The United States ran an overall trade deficit of \$41.1 billion during the first half of the year. Slane attributed the increased surplus to the lowering of trade barriers against American cigarettes.

Oman's oil-driven economy to reap windfall from high prices this year

DUBAI (R) — Oman is looking forward to a windfall from higher world oil prices this year due to the Gulf crisis, after the government announced better than expected economic figures for 1989.

Independent economists said the largely-desert sultanate of about 1.5 million people, where government spending is a key indicator of overall growth, might even achieve a budget surplus in 1990 after years of deficits.

"Final government accounts for 1989... show significant increases in revenues, a moderate expansion in expenditure, and a notable improvement in the fiscal position" over previous forecasts, the central bank said in a report.

The latest figures from the

bank, received in Dubai, showed gross domestic product (GDP) grew 16.4 per cent in the first quarter of 1990 over the same period a year ago.

GDP at current prices in 1989

grew 10.4 per cent to \$3.23 billion (S\$8.5 billion) after a 2.6 per cent fall in 1988, the bank said.

The key to economic performance is revenue from the state-run oil sector, which in 1989 accounted for more than 80 per cent of total revenues and about two-thirds of spending.

Oman has for years followed a

conservative policy when estimat-

ing the price it expects for its oil

in the coming budget year. A

world oil glut in the 1980s justi-

fied its caution.

Central bank figures showed 1989 revenues rose 12.6 per cent to 1.35 billion riyals (\$3.55 billion) while expenditure rose 5.4 per cent to 1.64 billion (4.3 billion).

Oman's long-term strategy is to develop the non-oil sectors of its economy, particularly farming and fisheries, with its oil revenue.

Proven oil reserves of some

over four billion barrels are small by Gulf standards, but Oman manages to produce around 700,000 barrels per day.

With an eye on oil prices in the 1990s, Oman signed a \$500 million contract last week with U.S. firm Brown and Root to increase output by up to 150,000 barrels per day.

The provisional 1990 deficit

was set at \$13.4 million riyals (\$823 million).

Oil prices fall to \$30

NEW YORK (AP) — Crude oil futures prices plummeted more than \$3 a barrel in heavy trading Monday amid optimism that a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis may be on the horizon.

Prices tumbled in London and plunged when trading shifted to New York as the markets reacted to comments by Saudi Arabian defence minister Prince Sultan, who suggested that Arab countries were willing to grant Iraq "all its rights."

"The statement has really gotten the markets unsettled," said Andrew Lebow, an analyst with E.D.F. and Man International Inc. "There is some expectation that maybe an Arab-proposed solution... is in the cards."

Market observers called Sultan's comments the most conciliatory since the crisis began.

In early dealings on the New York Mercantile Exchange, the contract for November delivery of light, sweet crude was off \$3.14 at \$30.65 a 42-gallon barrel. The contract had traded briefly below \$30 before inching higher.

The decline comes on the heels of further losses Friday, when the November contract settled down \$3.01 a barrel.

Earlier in London, North Sea Brent blend crude oil for December delivery fell to \$29.10 a barrel in early afternoon trading from \$32.40 late Friday.

Prices of refined products also fell sharply. The contract for wholesale unleaded gasoline for November delivery, which lost more than 5 cents Friday, was trading at 80.75 cents a gallon (3.8 litres) on the New York Merc, down a steep 7.16 cents. Home heating oil was down 7.01 cents a gallon at 80.90 cents after the near-term contract lost 8.11 cents Friday.

The market interpreted Sultan's comments as a sign that Saudi Arabia was prepared to agree to Kuwait ceding some land to Iraq. Traders pushed prices lower on the belief that this development might lead to a peaceful resolution of the Gulf crisis.

Activity in London was fairly light as many traders stayed on the sidelines waiting out the decline.

Soviet economy worsens in first 9 months of '90

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union has released details of falling production and living standards, after parliament approved an historic switch to a market economy.

The state statistics committee Goskomstat provided figures showing falling industrial output and declining exports of crude oil, a major hard currency earner, during the first nine months of this year.

Petrol production fell five per cent and exports fell by 2.1 million tonnes. Diesel exports dropped by 2.2 million tonnes.

Coal production also suffered, falling 27 million tonnes to \$28 million tonnes.

Hinting at a tough winter to come, Goskomstat said supplies of oil and coal to power stations had dropped by five and two per cent respectively.

The food situation was little short of disastrous, despite this year's record harvest. Production of meat — still in very short supply — fell four per cent.

"There were serious problems with food production. The population could only buy three-quarters of the needs (from state shops)," Goskomstat said.

Rationing in various forms exists throughout the country.

Other information about the first nine months of 1990 shows that:

— Overall production was only 99.1 per cent of that registered in the same period of 1989. Gross national product fell by 1.5 per

cent. Exports fell by six billion roubles (\$11.1 billion) to 43.5 billion roubles (\$81 billion).

— Imports edged up 0.1 billion roubles (\$0.2 billion) to \$2.5 billion roubles (\$37 billion).

— Imports of meat shot up 71 per cent, while those of tea rose 25 per cent and grain 17 per cent.

— Consumer goods accounted for 36 per cent of all imports.

— Families spent five per cent more on food and 12 per cent more on other goods, while prices of vital foodstuffs rose 5.6 per cent.

— Inflation rose nine per cent. Independent economists say it is now running at 20 per cent or more.

— The shortage of goods boosted black market prices, which are forecast to rise by 200 to 300 per cent by the end of 1990.

— The time lost through strikes and other disputes increased by 60 per cent and cost more than one billion roubles (\$1.95 billion). On average, 50,000 people a day were absent from work due to strikes.

— Unemployment was calculated at two million, but Goskomstat said only 137.5 million people out of the 164 million capable of working were in employment. It gave no explanation for the apparent discrepancy.

France faces spreading strikes over government economic policies

PARIS (R) — Thousands of teachers and students marched through central Paris Monday as unions stepped up protests against Prime Minister Michel Rocard's economic policies.

Electricity and transport workers, taxi drivers and even judges are also planning protests this week.

The government's 1991 budget, which is now before the national assembly, aims to hold down spending and taxes.

Economists have described it as sober and sensible, but unions have attacked it as too stringent.

About 25 schools in the Paris area have been hit by strikes over staff levels and conditions.

Judges, magistrates and state prosecutors have joined the protests against what the unions consider meagre government funding.

They will take to the streets Tuesday in a rare public protest. Union officials expect a total shutdown of the French legal system.

The CGT has called on electricity and gas workers to stop work Wednesday and Thursday in what could be the most damaging industrial action.

The federation plans to bold rally at the national assembly Thursday to protest against a new tax, the social contribution.

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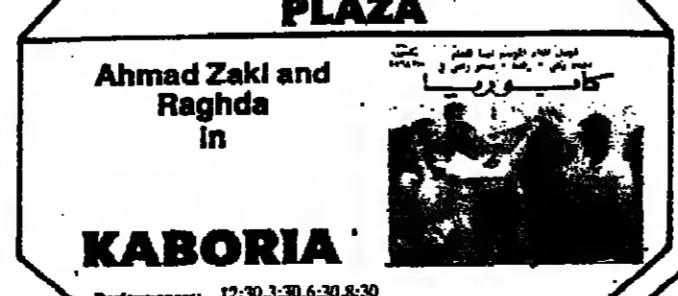
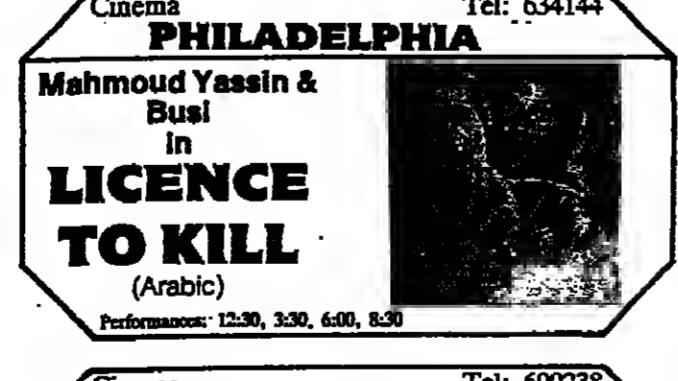
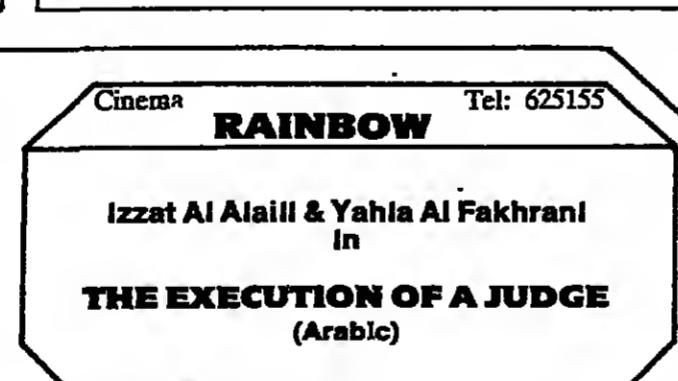
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Mahathir routs opponents to win Malaysia elections

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad began a third term in power Monday after routing a combined opposition challenge to Malaysia's general election to emerge with a comfortable two-thirds majority.

His 10-member multi-racial National Front Coalition took 127 of the 180 parliamentary seats in the weekend polls, Malaysia's eighth since independence in 1957.

"This shows that the people want a strong government," Mahathir, 64, told reporters early Monday.

Malaysian share prices opened strongly after the victory, with the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange composite index climbing 16.15 points or 3.4 per cent to 492.98 by midday Monday.

Leading the surge were companies linked to Mahathir's United Malays National Organisation (UMNO) party, the dominant partner in the coalition.

With the two-thirds majority, Mahathir can push through legislation in parliament easily and need not fear threats of defection

from coalition members.

Opposition leader Razaleigh Hamzah, 53, whom analysts said would be the biggest challenge to Mahathir since he took office in 1981, admitted his alliance performed below expectations.

Razaleigh's Semangat 46 (Spirit of 46) party, which broke from Mahathir's UMNO, won only seven of the 12 parliamentary seats it held previously. Its deputy leader, Rais Yatim, lost to a relative unknown.

Analysts said the opposition's failure to make significant gains in the parliamentary polls showed that Razaleigh had far less support among politically dominant Malays than he thought.

"Semangat's goals, including denying Mahathir the two-thirds majority, have failed," political scientist Murngesen Pathmanathan said. "It speaks well of the faith the people have in Mahathir."

The economy also has a part to play," one analyst said. The swing to opposition among ethnic Chinese did not come as strongly as expected because of the booming economy."

Filipino gunmen kill labour leader

MANILA (R) — Gunmen killed a moderate Philippine labour leader Monday and Communist hit-squads said they would not allow anyone to interfere with a general strike called for Wednesday.

Four gunmen armed with 45-calibre pistols burst into the office of Oscar Lazaro, 53, head of one of the largest transport unions, while he and four others were having lunch, police and witnesses said.

After ordering all in the room to lie face down on the floor, they took money and valuables before shooting Lazaro and fleeing.

No one has claimed responsibility for the killing but the .45 is the favoured weapon of the Communist New People's Army (NPA) which has killed several hundred people since President Corazon Aquino came to power in 1986.

The hit-squad headquarters issued a statement supporting the general strike being organised by left-wing unions.

The Communist organisation said it would "mobilise all its forces and its wide networks of mass support to ensure that the people's insurrectionary spirit will not be hindered by scabs and saboteurs."

Another labour leader, Adriano Yunul, head of a small Dock Union, was stabbed to death Monday. Police said they were still investigating the circumstances.

Meanwhile, military rebels claim they are forming links with Communists and other disaffected groups for a "big bang" against President Corazon Aquino before her term ends in 1992.

Renegade Maj. Abraham Purugganan made the claim during a clandestine interview with Filipino reporters last Saturday. By agreement among the reporters and Purugganan, the interview was not made public until Monday.

Purugganan, sought after a coup attempt last December, said a new coalition, the Democratic Front for Filipinos, would seek to launch a "nationalist revolution" to oust Mrs. Aquino and a new government.

"We will be definitely moving fast before 1992," Purugganan said. "We will just have one big bang."

Purugganan said the new alliance was formed on Oct. 17 during a secret concave, in which a civilian with the alias of Felix Servando was named chairman.

The alliance includes the Young Officers Union, a shadowy military faction linked to the December coup attempt, as well as members of various Communist organisations.

Mrs. Aquino has survived seven military revolts since she took power in the February 1986 "people power revolution" that toppled the late President Ferdinand Marcos.

Meanwhile, military rebels

over Razaleigh's ambitions," the analyst said. "The best thing they did was to go back to where they stood before."

There was some comfort for Razaleigh in his home state of Kelantan where the opposition took all 13 parliamentary seats.

ousted Defence Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithaendeen, Deputy Agriculture Minister Mohamed Kasim Ahmad and state Chief Minister Mohamad Yusof, and won all 39 state assembly seats.

Other government casualties were Science, Technology and Environment Minister Stephen Yong, Deputy Works Minister Lukah Wan, both from Sarawak, and the Chief Minister of Penang, Lim Chong Eu, who was toppled after 21 years in office by Democratic Action Party leader Lim Kit Siang.

Another opposition success was in the Borneo state of Sabah where the Bersatu Sabah Party (PBS), consisting mostly of Roman Catholic Kadazan tribespeople, won 14 of 20 parliamentary seats. It defected from



Mahathir Mohamad

Razaleigh's coalition last week.

Razaleigh is a prince of the Kelantan royal family and the state is a fundamentalist Muslim stronghold.

The clean sweep of Kelantan by the opposition Muslim party of Parti Islam Se-Malaysia (PAS), Razaleigh's Semangat 46 (Spirit of 46) and Berjasa ended a 12-year reign by Mahathir's coalition in Kelantan.

"We lost not because of (government) policies but because of the 'parochialism prevalent in Kelantan,'" Mahathir said.

About eight million of Malaysia's 17.4 million population were eligible to vote in the polls which were monitored by a Commonwealth observer group.

Tom Boya, who was mayor of Daveyton Township for 10 years, quit unexpectedly Sunday during a rally at the township east of Johannesburg. He also announced he was resigning as head of the United Municipalities of South Africa, an organisation of local black councils.

Many township mayors oppose the idea of local black councils, saying blacks should work to end apartheid through non-governmental organisations such as the African National Congress (ANC). Like many black municipal leaders, Boya had been under pressure to resign.

"This was the wish of the people. They wished me to resign from the local authority structure, and I've decided to do so," Boya said.

He accused the government of not meeting township needs and said other black councillors should also step down.

At the same rally, Boya's deputy mayor and two local councilors also announced they were quitting.

Meanwhile President F.W. De Klerk left South Africa Monday on a trip focusing on the Netherlands, ancestral homeland of his Afrikaner people, in a further sign that his political reforms have given him international stature.

Senior political sources said Prime Minister Krishna Prasad Bhattarai had called a meeting of his 11-member cabinet Monday to discuss the crisis.

They said the palace had altered the wording of the draft in a way that gave King Birendra, who has to approve the final version, substantial powers the original was designed to take away.

The sources said Bhattarai had sent a message to one of the king's secretaries saying he might be compelled to resign if the palace insisted on the changes.

They said at least two cabinet ministers were seriously contemplating resignation over the palace draft, which was given back to the government 10 days after it was sent to the king.

The latest of several deadlines for announcing the final draft is Wednesday and the sources said a majority in the cabinet was furious at what they saw as a palace plot to delay promulgation of the constitution.

"Delays in promulgation of the constitution on some pretext or other have created an atmosphere of uncertainty and suspicion," Bhattarai told a Kathmandu rally Friday.

"We were fighting for democracy from outside the government. Now we're doing so from within the government itself."

Bhattarai's government came to power in May after pro-democracy demonstrators took over the streets of Kathmandu and brought down the king's government.

Birendra promised he would yield the absolute powers wielded by the throne and become a constitutional monarch.

The move by Kenya followed a row with Oslo over dissident politician Koigi Wa Wamwere who was charged with treason after mysteriously returning from exile in Norway.

On Saturday, Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi attacked Norway for expressing concern

over Wamwere.

The statement signed by Foreign Minister Wilson Ndolo Ayah accused the Norwegian government of taking a hostile attitude towards Kenya for some time.

A statement from the Kenyan Foreign Ministry accused Norway of being an accessory to illegal activities carried out by what it called fugitives.

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